



Resilience & Growth through Adaptation

Annual Report

2021

2022

Table of Contents

- 04** — Letter from the President
- 05** — Letter from the Executive Director
- 06** — Y4Y Facts
- 08** — Our Approach to Community Development
- 09** — Y4Y's Outreach
- 10** — Board of Directors 2021 - 2022
- 11** — Young People Driving Change
- 12** — Activity Report - Projects & Programming
- 14** — Snapshot of the Year
- 15** — Socioeconomic Indicators of The Community We Serve
- 15** — Pressing Issues Facing Youth in Québec



- 16** — Bead the Way
- 17** — Say La Vie
- 18** — Priority-Setting Summit Project
- 20** — The Green Resilience Project
- 21** — Youth Town Hall Series
- 23** — You are Here: The Belonging Project
- 24** — With You in Mind
- 27** — The 5th Annual Youth Forum
- 28** — Y4Y Committees & Volunteering
- 29** — Research
- 30** — Financial Report
- 33** — We Couldn't Have Done It without You!

Letter from the President

Dear members, friends, and partners,

Like the year before it, the past year has been marked with a lot of uncertainties and new challenges for Québec's youth. Public health guidelines fluctuated from week to week, major social movements and political events provoked significant debates, and youth were yet again faced with existential questions during an unusually tumultuous time.

As always, I remain proud of Y4Y's flexibility and ability to pivot to address the issues youth are facing in the immediate. Our strength as an organization, and as a community, is rooted in our ability to listen and to amplify young voices. I believe that this is the key behind our success in continuously reaching new regions of Québec and forming new partnerships. The force of Y4Y Québec is its dedication to creating a space for young people to come as they are and articulate their needs and concerns.

This was evident during our first major in-person event since the start of the pandemic, during which young people collaborated on a strategic plan that

will guide the organization and the community more broadly as it navigates into a post-pandemic world. Y4Y is well-placed in the upcoming year to focus more acutely on those struggling the most with the challenges caused by the aftermath of the pandemic, notably with regards to mental health. My hope is that the organization continues to champion solutions and community-building for youth and by youth.

This past fiscal year also marked a change in leadership at Y4Y with Kathleen Mulawka acting as interim Executive Director. It would be remiss of the organization not to recognize that its successes over the past year are the result of her dedication, grit and creativity.

Here's to another year of building bridges and empowering Québec's youth community.



Madeleine Lawler
President

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This year tested the strength & stability of Y4Y as an organization, because the population it aims to serve, members of Québec's English-speaking youth community, were forced to test the limits of their resiliency in innumerable ways. The pandemic was hard on everyone; our organization learned about the profound impact it has had on the youth of our community, and we took the resulting responsibility very seriously. It required us to recalculate priorities, redouble our efforts to reach out, and ramp up the representation of community concerns to those in positions of power.


With the support of Y4Y's youth-led Board of Directors, the staff team exceeded expectations where project management was concerned. New editions of Y4Y's Podcast were shared widely every month, featuring young artists, innovators, and activists of all stripes. *Bead the Way* exemplified the possibilities for partnerships in spite of distance, and the value of passing traditional ways of life to the younger generation. Through the *Belonging Project*, we saw firsthand that peer-to-peer leadership is often the only way to break through barriers when isolation has become the norm. Funding for the *Green Resilience Project* and *With You In Mind* allowed us to do a deeper dive as an organization into two of the issues that are raised repeatedly in consultation with the English-speaking youth community: the climate crisis, and mental health. And thanks to the incredible work carried out over two years by the hundreds of youth involved in the *Priority-Setting Summit* Project, Y4Y can structure its future work according to the needs identified by youth, for youth.

The dynamic, diverse group of young people who

comprised the staff team at Y4Y in 2021-22 rose to every occasion, and never settled for "good enough" when it came to creating safe spaces for youth to sound off on the issues they are facing. In addition to the project-related work across the province, the team transformed what youth were sharing into policy briefs, campaigns, info sessions, workshops, panel discussions, research initiatives, and press releases. None of this would have been possible without a concerted and consistent team effort. I am so proud of the woman who led that team with quiet confidence, grace under pressure, and a laser-like focus on the mission of the organization - Kathleen Mulawka. She stepped in at a time of growth, which required her to adapt to new territory frequently. She brought a wealth of experience to the job, yet took every opportunity to learn new skills to improve the way the organization operates. Most importantly, she led with empathy, and has left Y4Y in a better position than when she started as Executive Director in January of 2021.

Thank you to the Board of Directors, as well as the Volunteers, Advisors, community partners, and other friends of Y4Y for your support during this challenging year. We look forward to finding more ways to engage with Québec's English-speaking youth communities in the years ahead.

With gratitude,



Adrienne Winrow
Executive Director

Mission

To address the issues facing English-speaking youths
(ages 16-30) in Québec

What

a provincial non-profit organization

When

established in 2018

Who

English-speaking youths
(ages 16-30)



Our Approach to Community Development

Share

information on resources, training and employment/career opportunities via outreach;

Support

our audience in connecting with other English-speaking youth with the help of regional ambassadors;

Create

networking opportunities across both linguistic communities;

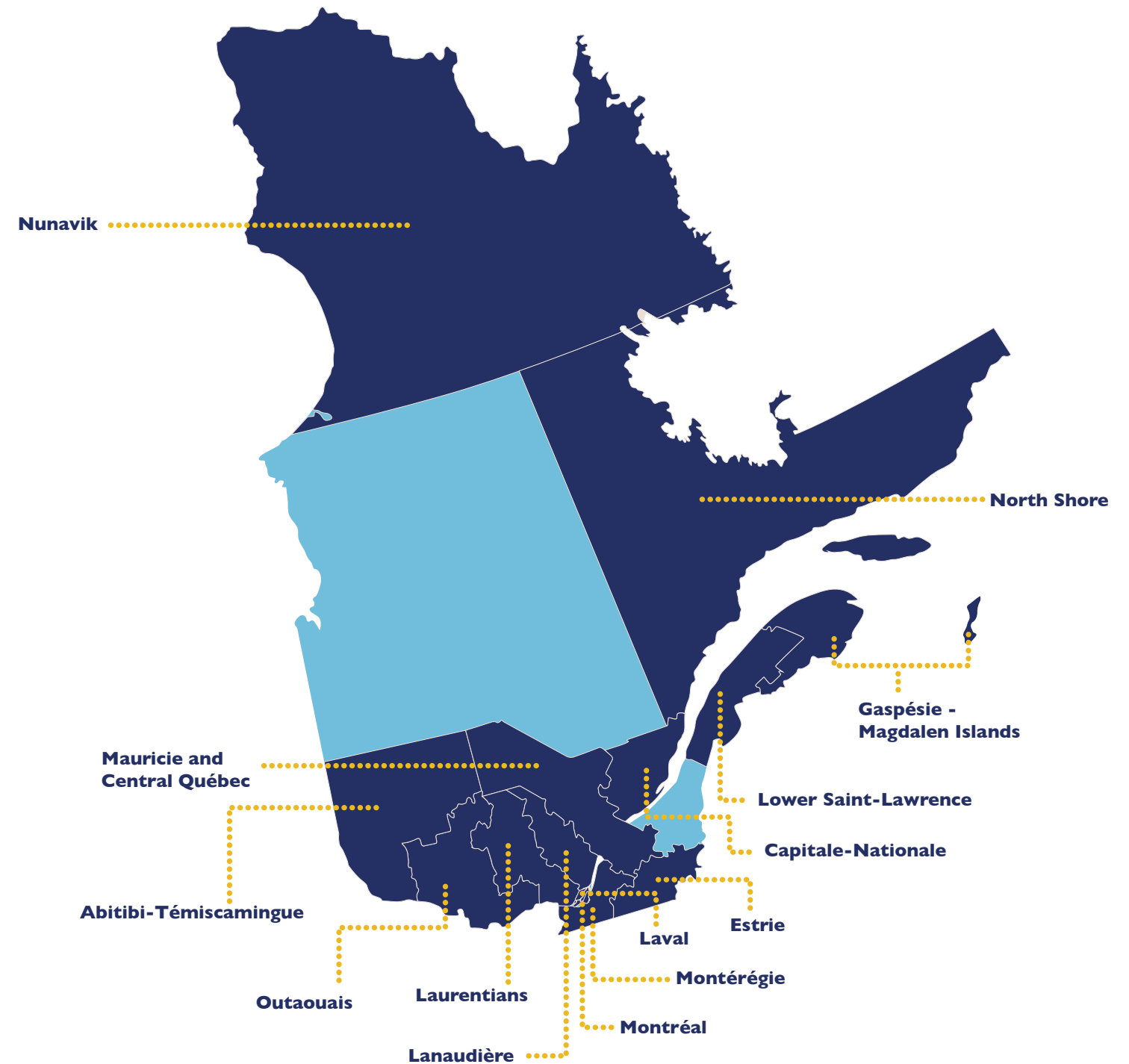
Offer

a vehicle for youth to become leaders while inspiring their peers to become civically engaged;

Assist

our audience in influencing public policy to ensure all language groups are equally represented in Québec society.

Y4Y's Outreach



● Regions Y4Y is active in

Board of Directors 2021-2022



Madeleine Lawler
President



Jonathan Patton
Vice President



Hayley Campbell
Secretary



Luca Manglaviti
Treasurer



Caleb Owusu



Joanna Kanga



Corey Hoare



Wadii Karfali



Jamie Fabian



Amber-Chantelle Regier



Chelsey Thomas



Christina Eyangos

Young People Driving Change How we are making our vision a reality at Y4Y Québec.



Youth across Québec contribute greatly to working on societal issues with the goal of improving the lives and conditions of those around them. Young English-speaking Quebecers (yESQs) are dynamic, engaged, and committed. Core to Y4Y Québec's mission is that yESQs take center stage in various initiatives. The Annual Youth Forum convenes yESQs from across the province to brainstorm, develop ideas, and ultimately contribute to strategic planning. In addition to the event, core Y4Y staff develop initiatives to engage yESQs in many regions across Québec. Whether designing policy briefs or participating in consultations, yESQs are given a voice and the opportunity to build lasting connections.

Empowering yESQs takes many forms at Y4Y Québec. With every one of the organization's

projects, Youth Advisory Committees guide and support activities to ensure that youth outreach is effective and representative. These have included (but are not limited to) the *With You in Mind* project, the *Priority-Setting Summit Project*, a podcast series, and the *Flag Project*. Beyond the Youth Advisory Committees, Y4Y meets with yESQs at various high schools across the province. These meetings provide yESQs in more remote regions the opportunity to feel connected with a larger yESQ community.

By fostering a yESQ community, Y4Y helps youth by giving them the opportunity to flourish and put their ideas into action. Understandably, youth are filled with many ideas and ambitions. To this end, Y4Y acts as a support and vehicle to bring these ideas to fruition which drives lasting change.

Corey Hoare
Board Member

Activity Report - Projects & Programming



My experience as a Youth Cultural Ambassador during the COVID-19 pandemic presented new challenges. I learned how to quickly adapt activities due to changes in Public Health restrictions.

As the Roaming Ambassador, I had the opportunity to interact with a handful of organizations and learn about different communities across Québec. Despite working from home, I was able to collaborate with others that share my passion for community initiatives. The success of hosting an event was a friendly reminder that “The Belonging Project” was able to bring communities together. I am grateful that I was able to participate in this meaningful experience, that during this difficult time connected communities.



Santana Briggs
Youth Cultural Ambassador,
You are Here: The Belonging Project

Snapshot of the Year

6000+ youths reached

2,100+ followers

f i t i n

100+ successful partnerships since Y4Y's founding

website clicks **600+**

11+ engagement with media

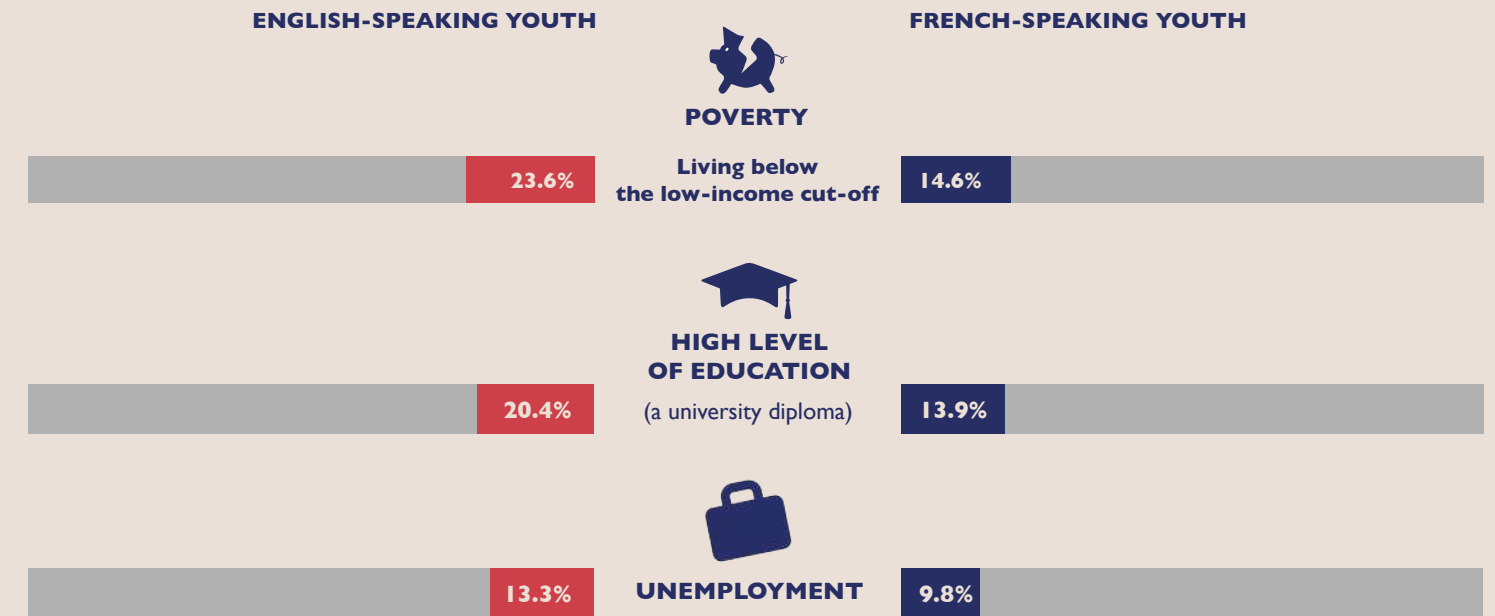
7 publications

50+ activities

2500+ volunteer hours

What a year it's been!

Socioeconomic Indicators of The Community We Serve



Source: Community Health and Social Services Network 2018.

Pressing Issues Facing Youth in Québec



Source: Survey conducted by Y4Y Québec President, Madeleine Lawler at John Abbott College, February 2021.

Bead the Way

Concluded



Spearheaded by local animator Susieanne Kudluk and funded by the Qarjuit Youth Council, Y4Y launched a beading project at the Kangirsuk Youth Center at the start of 2021. This was an initiative meant to bring together the young women of Kangirsuk, Québec.

Prompting the initiative, Susieanne had informed Y4Y that the women in the community really appreciated the art of beading, but few of them possessed the ability to do so. This project, therefore, was meant to help them learn a new skill that they would carry throughout their lives and pass along to the next generations. Bead the Way was designed to help the young women in Kangirsuk learn new creative skills through weekly workshops on beading and jewelry making, while strengthening economic opportunities for youth in the North. Susieanne led the sessions twice a week at the Kangirsuk Youth Center. While COVID-19 often forced sessions to be postponed or canceled, it is clear that the project was a much appreciated activity for all of its participants.

(Thank you to Y4Y Coordinators Misé Johns and Alex Pettem for collaborating on this project with our friends in Nunavik.)



Say La Vie

Concluded



Y4Y Québec's podcast, entitled Say La Vie, increased understanding of the experiences, diversity, and culture of English-speaking youth in the province.

The project's goal was to increase the sense of belonging among English-speaking youth in Québec society through inspirational storytelling and by featuring youth artistry. The project exceeded expectations by culminating in Episode 12, which celebrated the work of youth community organizers during the pandemic. The final episode of Say La Vie was released on March 28th, 2022.

(Thank you to Y4Y Podcast Producers Sampreet Arneja and Shin Ling Low for their dedication to the project.)



Giving a Voice to Youth

Priority-Setting Summit Project (PSSP)

Concluded



Over the course of two consecutive years, the PSSP involved hundreds of youth across the province in the design and development phases of creating a Strategic Plan for the English-speaking Youth Community of Québec.

The Youth Advisory Committee, formed in early 2021, guided the project through consultations with youth on issues of importance to them, recruitment of youth for participation in the two Summit events, and educational activities designed to engage youth in the process of turning issues into positive community actions. Youth Participants reported that they gained insight into government processes as well. Collaborations with project partners such as the Institut du Nouveau Monde, YES Montreal, LOJIQ, Apathy is Boring. As a result of the work completed by the youth who participated in the PSSP, Y4Y held a final event to elaborate on the actions described in the Strategic Plan during its Youth Forum 2022. The Plan, and the community priorities it identifies, will serve as a guiding light for Y4Y's work in the years to come.



Prioritizing the Future!



My passion for advocacy and creating change, motivated me to become a Youth Advisor for Y4Y Québec. During that time, I had the opportunity to animate workshops, learn about civic engagement, and meet professionals notably in communication, career development and strategic planning. I was fortunate to meet Michael Teed, Miriam Groom, and Marie-Dina Salvione, among many others.

My tasks as a Youth Advisor involved working on two Priority-Setting summits, which enabled the creation of a project in collaboration with other youth participants, community leaders, and governmental partners. Working at Y4Y Québec was highly beneficial in that I also had the opportunity to meet like-minded individuals, problem solve, and promote civic action and community engagement.

In other words, this opportunity has made me more informed and empowered about the ways I can generate change in my community.



Daniel Yu

Youth Advisory Committee Member,
Priority-Setting Summit Project

The Green Resilience Project

Concluded



The Green Resilience Project was a pan-Canadian series of conversations exploring the links between community resilience, income security, and the shift to a low-carbon economy.

Y4Y was chosen as a partner organization to host two of these timely conversations in the Greater Montréal Region, identifying next steps to build community resilience in the face of these challenges. Staff member Alex Pettem held conversations in January 2022 with the Filipino Youth Group of the Evangelical Mission Community Church of Montréal, as well as with Montréal-area young professionals.

The former group demonstrated a neutral to pessimistic view on whether solutions will be achieved to combat climate change and income insecurity. This general consensus is saddening, but galvanizing. The latter expressed a tone of anxiety, solidarity, and a belief in government and big business as those responsible for finding solutions.

In March 2022, the Green Resilience Project produced a final report summarizing findings across conversations, which was shared with the federal government. Funding was provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada's Climate Action and Awareness Fund. The project was managed by Energy Mix Productions, Basic Income Canada Network, Coalition Canada Basic Income, Basic Income Canada Youth Network, national experts, and local partners.



Youth Town Hall Series

Ongoing



In November 2021, staff member Alex Pettem traveled to St. Paul's River in the Lower North Shore to hear the hopes and concerns of local English-speaking youth about the region's recent high speed internet connection.

Set up at St. Paul's High School and broadcast over Zoom to two local schools (Mécatina and Nétagamou), Y4Y's Town Hall addressed the good and the bad that comes with high speed internet so as to better prepare youth for this reality. Angela Morency, from the nearby Community Justice Center in Sept-Îles, spoke about the legal angle (discussing cyberbullying and consent laws), while our second panelist, Latesha Fequet from the Coasters Association, spoke about high speed's greater job, knowledge, and mental health service access. The local Mayor of Bonne-Espérance, Dale Roberts-Keats, was kind enough to open the Town Hall with an address to the region's English-speaking youth, praising their resilience and addressing the elation that high speed internet has

brought to the region.

It was a pleasure meeting with the students and staff at St. Paul's River, as well as the personnel at the Mayor's office, the Coasters Association, and Steel River Group. The kindness of the local citizens, furthermore, made for an excellent and rewarding experience for Y4Y. This project will continue into 2022-23, during which time 3 more Town Hall events will be held.





Working on the Priority-Setting Summit project was really rewarding because my feedback as a member of the Youth Advisory Council was valued and taken into consideration. My favourite part was being able to host the summit; I could not have imagined being responsible for hosting such a large event, but I am really grateful to Y4Y Québec for giving me the chance! I was also really proud of what my team came up with for our strategic plan. It's amazing that we got to spend two days brainstorming, and that our ideas could actually be seen by elected officials. An opportunity like this uplifts our voices, allows us to try new things, and encourages us to be active in our communities.

As for working on the You are Here: Belonging Project, I deepened my connection to my community. This project made me feel like I had something unique to contribute to heritage organizations from my perspective as a youth. To receive thanks and recognition from participants in my events made me feel like my voice is important in my community. The Belonging Project is a great opportunity to build bridges between generations and cultures.



Charlotte Crober
 Youth Advisor,
 Priority-Setting Summit Project
 &
 Youth Cultural Ambassador,
 You are Here: The Belonging Project

You are Here: The Belonging Project

Ongoing

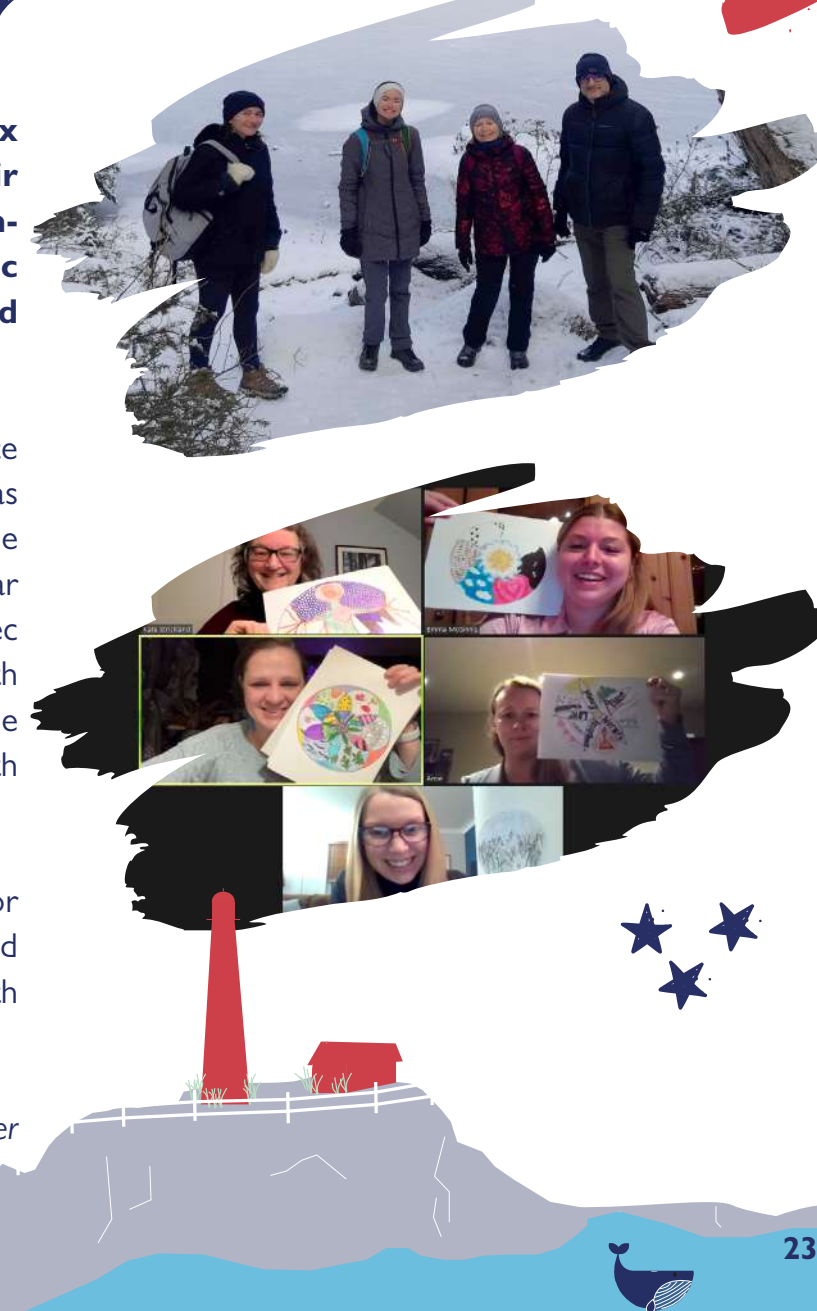


Following months of local activities, the six youth cultural ambassadors explored their regions and connected with locals and community organizations from across Québec to celebrate culture, heritage, history, and everything in between.

The You Are Here project continues to introduce us to new opportunities with new regions such as the Laurentians, Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Montérégie and strengthen connections from the previous year in regions such as Montréal, Gaspésie, and Québec City. At Y4Y's Fifth Annual Youth Forum, our youth cultural ambassadors celebrated their time on the project and experiences as English-speaking youth in the province.

It does not end here as You are Here is back for a third consecutive year, thanks to the renewed funding from the Secretariat for Relations with English-Speaking Quebecers.

(Thank you to Y4Y Coordinator Holly Nadeau for her dedication to two years of the Belonging Project.)



With You in Mind

Ongoing



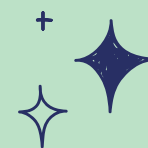
This year was Y4Y Québec's first year running the With You in Mind mental health initiative, which focused on ensuring youth have the skills to navigate mental health in their communities by providing a series of free workshops on Substance use, Active Listening, Cultural Considerations in Mental Health and Art Therapy.

Y4Y also hosted its With You in Mind Panel - A Conversation with Mental health professionals. Youth had the opportunity to ask questions and voice their opinions directly to the 5 mental health professionals! This created an interesting and vital conversation surrounding accessing mental health, needs for more support and the sharing of lived experiences.

In addition, Y4Y compiled a list of the attendees of each With You in Mind event, with each attendance counting as one entry into a raffle, in which 13 youth won a Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training sponsored by Y4Y Québec. This successful initiative engaged youth from all over the province in vital conversations and skill development surrounding mental health.

And With You in Mind is back for a second consecutive year thanks to the renewed funding from the Secrétariat à la jeunesse and CHSSN.

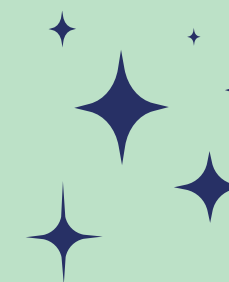
(Thank you to Y4Y Coordinator Maria Morais for her dedication to the project.)



We collaborated more with Y4Y this year and we are so glad. They aren't afraid to try new things, they are effective, and the team has a clear understanding of our mission. As a community partner, this means they know how our organizations align and we can build great things together.



Oliver Fitzpatrick
Young Carers Project Coordinator, AMI-Quebec





Working with Y4Y while in University was one of the most influential and educational opportunities I was fortunate enough to have. I immediately felt welcomed throughout the office and was always excited to return. Y4Y gave me all the space and support for growth and potential, encouraging me to take on my own tasks and projects. This felt like my first real job and it really set a high bar for future employers. I learned and strengthened many skills that have proved useful on a regular basis and I am incredibly grateful to the Y4Y team and atmosphere for this experience!



Dalia Puterman
Communications Assistant

The 5th Annual Youth Forum



On March 19th, 2022, Y4Y held its 5th Annual Forum with youth and community partners from across the province. With the help of facilitators, including mental health specialists, community leaders, and elected officials, the forum featured a broad range of workshops for youth to participate in, on the topics of Mental Health, Climate Change, and Community Involvement.

With over 120 participants, the virtual forum was engaging and informative, and brought together youth from across the province to share their views with one another. The event may have been virtual

but the fun was real: Participants joined breakout rooms halfway through their various workshops to dance, do yoga, enjoy a magic show and watch a live musician perform, before returning to their “think tank-style” activities. Participants met two Special Guest Speakers: MNA Benoit Charette, Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change, and Thierry Lindor, an award-winning entrepreneur, a Canadian G20 YEA & UN Delegate.

The Forum also provided an opportunity for participants to learn about volunteering opportunities, ongoing Y4Y initiatives, and other ways to get involved in their communities.



Y4Y Committees & Volunteering



Over the last year, Y4Y's committees gained momentum. After a short hiatus in 2020, the Membership & Fundraising Committee was revived by Board Member and Committee Chairperson Luca Manglaviti, meeting regularly, recruiting volunteers, and assisting with all members and fundraising affairs. With the help of the committee, the organization has reached nearly 70, with nearly 30 new voting members.

Our Policy Committee has continued to assist the organization with policy brief drafting, government relations, and assisting with consultations regarding mental health, language, and green policy. Board Member Caleb Owusu taking the lead in the second half of the year, the Policy Committee featured a smooth transition and continues to meet regularly. Previously co-chaired by Gustavo Andrade, we would like to thank him for all his hard work with the organization over the past couple of years!

Moving into the next year, our focus will be on gaining foot in the regions with the Regional Table Committee. We hope to host volunteering activities in several regions, using the momentum and connec-

tions gained by our You are Here team. With the aid from our Youth Cultural Ambassadors present in several regions in Québec, we hope to grow our network and our future work includes a growing diversity of voices.



Research



The results are in and there's never been a generation more formally educated or more globally connected. Y4Y's leveraging this intel and the motivation of younger generations to work behind the scenes and between the lines - literally!

In 2021, we published 7 policy briefs on some of the most pressing issues facing the future of Québec: Infrastructure and technology. Housing and job

security. Air quality and climate change. Migrant workers and international students. Health services and gun violence... the list goes on.

While the world grappled with a global health crisis, the importance of youth-led advocacy became even more important for our province-wide network. Advocacy and our work on policy reflect an active committee of deep-thinking volunteers, eager to investigate the problems of today's world.



Financial Report

Statement of operations
(Year ended March 31, 2022)
(unaudited)

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Revenues		
Grants	504 067	390 848
SSUC grant subsidy - COVID-19	-	19 815
Projects contributions to operations	21 784	12 181
Misc donation	2 345	1 104
	528 196	423 948
Expenses		
Salaries	318 569	232 549
Consulting	46 626	47 471
Rent	32 662	12 125
Activities	20 629	5 052
Travel	41 139	5 103
Insurance	1 784	1 755
Office expenses	29 037	33 877
Communication and translation	3 354	4 380
Annual dues and membership	2 819	4 492
Publicity and promotional items	3 361	5 852
Youth Forum	3 874	499
Professional fees	30 058	16 985
Training	2 567	3 642
	536 479	373 782
	\$	\$
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	(8 283)	50 166

Changes of Net Assets
(Year ended March 31, 2022)
(unaudited)

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Balance, Beginning of Year	46 079	(4 087)
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	(8 283)	50 166
Balance, End of Year	37 796	46 079

Balance Sheet
(Year ended March 31, 2022)
(unaudited)

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash	125 963	137 440
SRQEA Contribution Agreement receivable	25 800	8 658
Prepaid expenses	15 941	19 562
	167 704	165 660

Liabilities

Current liabilities

Payables and accrued liabilities	48 344	55 890
Payroll liabilities	10 414	10 371
Deferred grant	31 150	13 320
	89 908	79 581
Federal government loan - COVID-19	40 000	40 000
(no interest until Dec 2022)		

Net Assets

Unrestricted net assets	37 796	46 079
	167 704	165 660

“

On November 18th, 2021, I had the privilege of attending a Youth Town Hall Project via Zoom. The event took place at St. Paul's High School in St. Paul's River, Québec. Mr. Pettem, the organizer with Y4Y was at the school with the students while myself and the presenters were in attendance via the Zoom platform.

This was my very first appearance as mayor at such event and I was very impressed with the presentations by Ms. Latesha Fequet and Ms. Angela Morency. The areas of positivity regarding internet connectivity as well as the negative side of it is important information for the youth to acquire. Both ladies were extremely knowledgeable in their specific areas and very precise and informative in their presentations. The information that they shared with the students was concise and to the point and totally relevant.

Thank you, Mr. Pettem, for that privilege and best of luck with your future projects at Y4Y.



Dale Roberts-Keats
Mayor of Bonne Esperance

✦ ✦
+
**We Couldn't Have
Done It
without You!** ✦ ✦
+

The community partnerships Y4Y engaged in this year had a huge impact on Y4Y's ability to maintain its status as a strong, stable and diverse organization. We continue to learn from our partners, and are endlessly grateful for the mentorship they provide. You are too numerous to name, and too critical to our success not to mention. Thank you for taking Y4Y under your wings, while also showing us how to spread our own!

Our organization expresses special gratitude to the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Secretariat for Relations with English-Speaking Quebecers, the Secrétariat à la jeunesse, and the Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN). Our ideas and activities would not have come to life without the generous contributions of our funders.

Last but not least, Y4Y cannot thank the English-speaking youth communities of Québec enough for the trust they have instilled in the organization. We are proud to support the upcoming generation of leaders.

**Thank
you!**



5165 Sherbrooke Street West,
Suite 107
Montréal, QC H4A 1T6



info@y4yquebec.org



514-612-2895



www.y4yquebec.org